

THE BIG BLUE UNION.

JOHN P. CONE. EDITOR.

MARYSVILLE, KANSAS.

Saturday, December 6, 1862.

Pike's Peak Travel and Trade.

The current of trade and speculation for the Fall and Winter has already commenced pushing towards the "setting sun," and scarcely a day passes without witnessing the arrival in town, from Leavenworth and Atchison, well-freighted wagons destined for Denver City and the Gold Region.

Speaking of this already large and growing trade, the Leavenworth Conservative says:

"Messrs. Loece and Jennison yesterday started a train for Denver, containing goods to the amount of seventy thousand dollars."

The commerce over the plains, between Leavenworth and Colorado is much more extensive than the general public is aware of. Being in the hands of individual merchants and freighters, and no longer controlled by a few heavy companies, it would be very difficult to secure full statistics of this trade. We know that no week goes by without one or more trains leaving this city for Denver. But the departure of these heavily laden wagons, on their long journey, has become so frequent as to no longer attract attention, or lead even to a newspaper item. Our bankers and merchants, however, are fully aware of the extent and importance of the mountain trade.

One banking house here, Clark, Gruber & Co., alone, buys thirty thousand dollars worth of gold dust every week.

"If any one thinks Pike's Peak has 'played out,' he has only to take a walk through our streets to be speedily convinced of his error."

Last year, a few enterprising men in the vicinity of Emporia engaged in the shipping of flour to Colorado, and we were told at the time that the business was highly remunerative. Kansas has shown that she is even a better wheat-raising than corn-growing State (winter wheat being less dependent on rains in summer, and therefore a surer crop) and the shipping of flour to the gold region must hereafter become an extensive source of profit to our agricultural population.

Quite a large amount of sorghum syrup, manufactured in Atchison county, by J. S. Schell, on Cook's Evaporator, has been shipped to Denver the present Fall. It is of the finest quality, and we have no doubt that from this small beginning may be built up an extensive and profitable trade in the important item of sweetenings.

For this immense commerce and travel of the plains, the Northern or Platte river route is the great highway—the route over which nine-tenths of the merchandise from the Missouri river to Colorado, Utah, Washington, passes; and by which returns the golden wealth and traffic of not only those Territories, but, in connection with the California Overland route, the inexhaustible treasure of that far-famed State. Long established as the California route, and military and government road to the western Forts, it has, by improvements and "cut-offs" made within the past few years, become the favorite highway to all, whether he be emigrant, speculator or man of leisure and travel. The accommodations for wood and water are unsurpassed. Six hundred miles from Denver City to Atchison; nearly 400 miles of which lies along the south bank of the Platte river; and from Fort Kearney to this point, less than 140 miles, the tributaries of the Republican, with other streams and main branches of the Little and Big Blue rivers, furnish the traveler with an all-sufficiency of fuel and water; and the 100 miles from Marysville to the Missouri river lays in a country well supplied with timbered streams and creeks, and good grazing prairie for stock in the Spring and Summer months.

Could the commerce and traffic of the plains, or the amount of travel over this one route, be estimated and put down in figures, that "won't lie," we no doubt should all be surprised at its magnitude and importance; and such a result, though difficult of obtaining, would be a satisfaction and study to the speculator and business man.

NEW SCHOOL HOUSE, Church, &c.—We are glad to notice that school district number four is putting up a new house, and we presume it will soon be ready for occupancy. There is a full "quota" of children in town for a permanent and well-organized school, and we hope to soon see one in successful operation. Within a month, at least, the house should be finished and a school in full blast.

We are also glad to see that the apology for a school house—the old church building, out in the wilderness of bottom land weeds and nastiness—has been abandoned as a place of public resort. However well it might be finished or made suitable for inclement weather, its present location is sufficient to condemn it as a place unfit for either schools or public gatherings. But could it not be removed to some suitable and convenient place, and then finished up for religious and other public service? A church is much needed here, (we are aware that the question is now under the consideration of our citizens, and hope the project may be successful, as we presume it eventually will,) and it occurs to us that much the most speedy way to accomplish the desired result, and save from destruction the property and labor already expended for church purposes, thereby turning a "bad penny to good account," is to remove the old church to some central and convenient part of the city and put it in proper repair. There may be serious objections to this, but we know of none. It is merely made as a suggestion, and we ask nothing for it.

NEW BRIDGE ON THE SENECA CUT-OFF.—The bridge over Spring Creek, five miles east of here on this new road or cut-off, was completed last Thursday, or so nearly finished as to require but a small amount of labor, such as filling up around the abutments, etc., which, we understand, was to be done on the succeeding day by the settlers living in close proximity to the creek. There are several bad places in the road, some two or three sloughs that have not been filled up or rocked—between the east forks and main body of the Vermilion, which should be attended to forthwith. This cut-off has already been traveled to a considerable extent, and quite a well beaten road is made all the way through, although it is unfit for travel by heavily-loaded teams. Empty teams can and do travel it with perfect safety. It is built upon the line dividing townships two and three; saves ten miles in distance between this place and Seneca over the old route, or Military road, and is therefore the straightest and shortest route for the traveler. We hope in a short period to announce it opened to all the trade, traffic and travel which passes through here.

COTTON.—We were shown yesterday, by Mr. Wright, of Stranger township, a ball of wicking spun from cotton raised on his farm. It appeared of as fine a texture as any we have seen.—*Leavenworth Times.*

That is what we like to hear about cotton. We do not desire for some time to come, to hear of bales of cotton shipped from Kansas. We want to hear of balls of wicking, rolls of batting, skeins of stocking yarn and bolts of jeans. Let the farmers' wives use the cotton raised in Kansas for these purposes, and its real value, as a production of the State, will be far greater than if the raw material should be sold and carried out of the State.—*Topeka Record.*

The White Cloud Chief says:
We have been informed (and our informant considers his source of information reliable) that Cleveland, the Jayhawker, was not killed, but was recently seen in St. Louis, and that the story of his death was manufactured in order to direct attention from him, and permit him to slide out of the country. If this be true, it seems to us that a great many persons must have been deceived, and that certain officers and soldiers were implicated in the deception.

The Conservative says that intelligence has been received which is considered reliable at Headquarters, to the effect that the Colored Regiment will be immediately mustered and paid.

FADING AWAY.—The Leavenworth Conservative says:

Last spring, when the Sack and Fox Indians were enrolled for payment, they were found to number one thousand and eighty men. Last week they were again paid, but were found to number one hundred and thirty less than they did six months before. No epidemic has prevailed among them; no fearful war has thinned their ranks; but they rapidly fade away. So dies a wave along the shore.

WHERE THE SHOES PINCHES.—The Richmond Whig says:

"We are about to be put to the greatest trial we have yet encountered. If we are ready at all points, and succeed in repelling the enemy, it will probably be his final effort. If he breaks our defences and makes his way into the interior, enforcing emancipation as he advances, he will do incalculable mischief."

RELIGIOUS NOTICES.—Rev. Mr. Hague will preach in this city on Sabbath next, at 11 o'clock A. M.

Rev. Chas. Parker, will preach Sabbath evening, at R. S. Newell's office at 7 o'clock.

Missouri Congressmen Elected.

We have not the returns complete from the several Congressional Districts, nor indeed in any shape other than such as enables us to give the general result of the election. It may be considered settled that our delegation in Congress, after the 4th of March next, will stand as follows:
First District—F. P. Blair.
Second District—H. T. Blow.
Third District—John G. Scott.
Fourth District—S. H. Boyd.
Fifth District—J. W. McClurg.
Sixth District—Austin A. King.
Seventh District—Benjamin Loan.
Eighth District—W. A. Hall.
Ninth District—James S. Rollins.

The delegation will stand five for emancipation—Blair, Blow, Boyd, McClurg and Loan—one not fully committed—King—and three opposed—Rollins, Hall and Scott.—[*St. Jo. Herald.*]

President Lincoln yesterday assured Gov. Yates and Mr. Arnold that he had no intention of withdrawing or modifying his proclamation of freedom, but on the contrary he should issue the supplementary one on the 1st of January. He also remarked that he did not interpret the recent elections as expressing a desire on the part of the people for the withdrawal of the proclamation.

Retaliatory.
Executive Office, Richmond Nov. 17.
To Lieut. Gen. Holmes, commanding the Department Mississippi:

General:—Enclosed you will find a slip from the Memphis Daily Appeal, of the 3d inst., purporting to be derived from the Palmyra Mo., paper, a Federal journal of the murder of ten Confederate citizens of Missouri by order of Gen. McNeil, of the U. S. Army. You will communicate by flag of truce with the Federal officer commanding that Department, and ascertain if the facts are as stated. If they are so, you will demand the immediate surrender of McNeil to the Confederate authorities, and if the demand is not complied with, you will inform said commanding officer that you are ordered to execute the first ten U. S. officers that fall into your hands.

Very Respectfully Yours,
(Signed) Jefferson Davis.

THE RESULT OF SLAVERY.

Under the above caption, an article in the Boston, Mass., Commonwealth, says:

"Over the door of a church near the battle field of Antietam, which during that battle was completely riddled with balls, some one wrote in large letters: 'This is the result of Slavery!' Many hundreds of names have been written under the words showing the approval of the sentiment by soldiers and the citizens."

This day every great church body in America is also riddled, divided, broken, remnants and segments excommunicating and denouncing each other, and on the front of each may be truthfully written: "This is the result of Slavery!"

Our country, too, is broken and torn by the dreadful shock of civil war; commerce is riddled; piracy covers the high seas; no ship sails safely; section is alienated from section, family from family, heart from heart; and they must be blind indeed who do not read over all, the words: "This is the result of Slavery!"

Countrymen! we have trusted in oppression, and by another lesson in addition to the thousands with which history is filled, God has taught us that those who so trust shall be put to confusion. Let us now call on the architect Liberty to repair the breach in the wall; under her hand the mighty edifice resting on the corner stone of justice, shall rise fair and strong; its walls shall be invulnerable as the arm of God on which it shall rest; and our children and children's children shall enter into it, and over its door shall be written: "This is the result of Liberty!"

Read our new advertisements, all of them. The farmers will notice the advertisement of A. E. Lovell for pork. He pays the highest market price, and customers will always find him fair and liberal.

It has been decided by Attorney-General Stanton that residents upon Indian Reservations are not legal voters, and are not liable to be taxed. The question came up from Morris county, where Mr. Downing the Republican candidate was elected over the Democratic nominee by a majority of one.

A man named Bacon, a citizen of Atchison county, was found in an out of the way place, on Monday night the 17th inst., in a horrible mangled condition—supposed to have been murdered.—[*Lawrence Journal.*]

Of Kansas Salt, and Salt Springs.

The Junction City Union says:

"Salt is becoming a dear, a very dear article in Kansas. It has advanced in Leavenworth to \$5 per barrel, with a prospect of a speedy advance to \$7. It retails here now at 4 and 5 cents a pound with a prospect of going up to six or seven cts."

This ought not to be. We have hundreds of Springs in Western Kansas, discharging hundreds of thousands of gallons of water daily, holding in solution thousands of bushels of pure salt, which ought to be saved, manufactured and brought into the market to arrest the upward tendency of prices and to enrich the State. Three things intervene to prevent this. 1st, The Springs are reserved by the general government from private occupancy, or held by the State Government; 2d, The want of capital; 3d, The frontier location of the Springs and the danger to be apprehended from the thieving Indians who hang upon our Western border.

All these difficulties can be overcome, and we hope and trust soon will be.

The State is the owner of twelve of these Springs, with four sections of land to each of them. The Legislature of next winter ought to adopt measures at its very next session to bring all these Springs into use either by leasing them on long terms to capitalists, or by offering a liberal premium to persons who will produce salt from them, and by adopting means to protect those who embark in the business. The recent discovery of coal at Cedar Bluffs, in very close proximity to these Springs, remove all obstacles in the way of fuel, if indeed that article is requisite in the production of salt from these Springs. Our own opinion is that all that is requisite are rats in which to save the water; that the dry winds of our summer and autumn will furnish all the fuel needed for the manufacture of the article by the millions of bushels. Will our Legislators look to this.

Interesting to Tax-Payers.

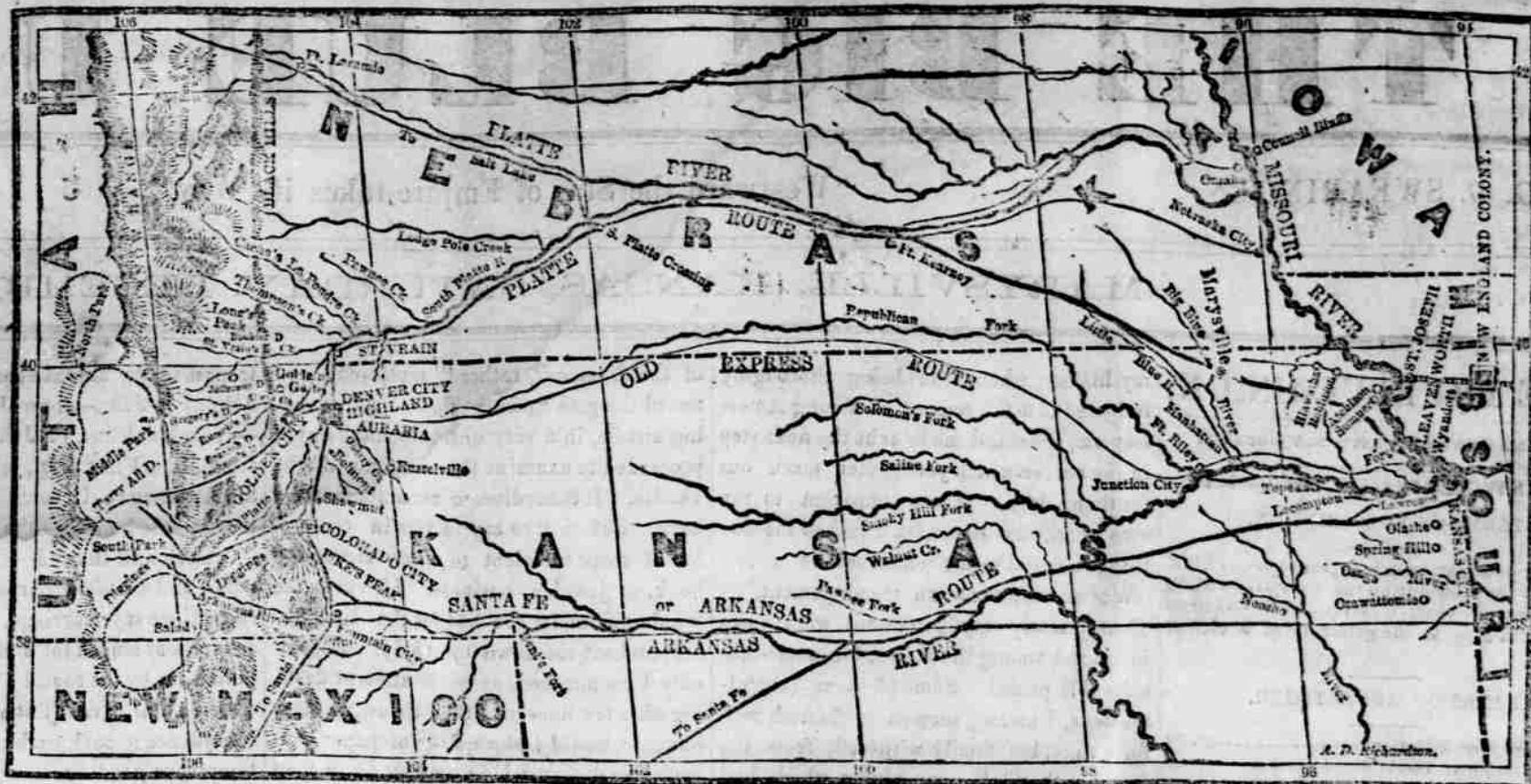
Section 68 Excise law, says that manufacturers shall file with the Assistant Assessor of each Division, a statement under oath, within ten days after the first day of each month, of the amount of manufactured articles, and enforced by distraint.

Sec. 76, refers to Auctioneers and requires them to make a return to the assistant assessor at the end of each month—or within ten days thereafter—a statement under oath, of all goods, wares, merchandise, articles or things; including all sales of stocks, bonds, and other securities sold at auction. Penalty for non-performance enforced by distraint.

Section 78 and 79 refers to slaughterers of cattle sheep and hogs, and requires them to make a state to the assistant Assessor, under oath of all cattle, hogs, and sheep, slaughtered in that month; and in case of failure to make such returns, or payment of said tax penalty, imposed by distraint, or for fraud or evasion, they shall forfeit and pay a penalty of ten dollars per head upon all such cattle, hogs, or sheep, so fraudulently withheld.

The same laws shall apply to brewers of beer, lager beer and ale.

Benjamin F. Harding of Salem has been elected U. S. Senator from Oregon to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Col. E. D. Baker. Mr. Harding is a Union Democrat.



MAP SHOWING THE ROUTES TO THE GOLD REGIONS.